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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT **INFORMATION REPORT**

CD NO.

COUNTRY Rumania

DATE DISTR. 30 October 1950

SUBJECT Orastie Explosives Factory

NO. OF PAGES 2

PLACE
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1. The Orastie factory in Transylvania formerly belonged to the Astra Corporation. Its present name is Explosives Factory, Astra-Orastie (Fabrica de Explosivi, Astra-Orastie). The plant is subordinate to the Government Armaments Department.
2. Colonel Magiari was manager of the plant in 1946. There were 600 workers employed, 60 percent of which were women. The plant is located in a wood west of Orastie, south of the Orastie-Arad road. North of the plant is a military training ground. The premises of the plant extend about one and one-half miles. Railroad sidings connect the plant with the Bucharest-Orastie-Arad railroad line. Parallel to the plant is an approach road.
3. The mechanical and technical equipment is of German origin; it is modern and the whole plant operates very smoothly. The machines are electrically driven. Power is supplied by the electric mains of Orastie which receives its current from the power station of Simeria.
4. Explosives for all kinds of ammunition are made in the plant. The empty cartridge cases are supplied by the Astra Works in Brasov. The test firing range is located on the western edge of the plant area. Anti-tank ammunition of 88 mm. caliber was tested there in 1946.
5. The plant is surrounded by a barbed wire fence about seven and one-half feet high. Five sentries are stationed outside the fence and three sentries inside the fence. The plant is completely camouflaged. All the buildings are painted with grey camouflaged paint and covered with a wire mesh which serves as a base for climbing vines.

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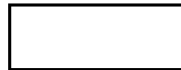
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All buildings are of concrete with 8.2 foot ceilings and have horizontal concrete roofs.

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